

## Message Text

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20

ACTION OC-05

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 ISO-00 /006 W  
----- 048417

O 200819Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2054

AMCONGEN FRANKFURT IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ANKARA 0448

DEPARTMENT FOR OC/P FROM COURIER OTTO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ACOM

SUBJECT: DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED BY U.S. DIPLOMATIC COURIER CLEARING  
OFFICIAL DIPLOMATIC POUCHES THROUGH TURKISH CUSTOMS AT  
ANKARA ESENBAGA AIRPORT

1. ENCOUNTERED A 40 MINUTE DELAY MONDAY EVENING AT ESENBAGA AIR-  
PORT IN ANKARA DURING CLEARING OF 1120 LBS OF DIPLOMATIC MAIL WHICH  
ARRIVED WITH THIS COURIER ON LUFTHANSA FLIGHT 160 FROM  
FRANKFURT.

2. AFTER 5 LARGE BULKY "WT/W" DIPLOMATIC POUCHES CLEARED THE  
TURKISH CUSTOMS AREA WITHOUT A PROBLEM AND WERE BEING LOADED IN  
THE EMBASSY TRUCK, I WAS INFORMED BY A TURKISH CUSTOMS OFFICIAL  
THAT NONE OF THESE POUCHES COULD LEAVE THE AIRPORT, THAT THESE  
DIPLOMATIC POUCHES MUST REMAIN AT THE ESENBAGA AIRPORT IN TRANS-  
IT.

3. ALL DIPLOMATIC POUCHES WERE RETURNED TO THE CUSTOMS AREA.  
THEN A PANTOMINE OF DISAPPROVAL OF THESE DIPLOMATIC POUCHES BEGAN.  
ABOUT 7 "OFFICIAL TYPES" PUSHED AND PULLED THE DIPLOMATIC BAGS.  
SEVERAL OFFICIALS KICKED THE "WT/W" DIPLOMATIC BAGS SOUNDLY RE-  
CEIVING A DUDDISH SOUND. SEVERAL "X" POUCHES WERE "BOXER PUNCHED"  
AND LIFTED FOR WEIGHT.

4. EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVE MET AND ASSISTED COURIER AND WAS  
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INSTRUMENTAL IN LOCATING LUFTHANSA'S STATION MANAGER AFTER FLIGHT

DEPARTURE WHO CONTACTED PROPER CUSTOMS OFFICER AND THE DIPLOMATIC  
POUCHES WERE CLEARED. END OF OTTO MESSAGE.

FOR OC AND DEPARTMENT. EMBASSY BROUGHT THIS INCIDENT TO THE ATTEN-  
TION OF FOREIGN MIN OFFICIAL WITH REQUEST THAT AIRPORT CUSTOMS  
PERSONNEL BE INSTRUCTED TO FACILITATE OLEARANCE PROCEDURES ON FUTURE  
COURIER TRIPS TO ANKARA.  
MACOMBER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POUCH SERVICES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976ANKARA00448  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760020-0735  
**From:** ANKARA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760142/aaaablfn.tel  
**Line Count:** 69  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION OC  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <21 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <22 JUN 2004 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED BY U.S. DIPLOMATIC COURIER CLEARING OFFICIAL DIPLOMATIC POUCHES THROUGH TURKISH CUSTOMS AT  
**TAGS:** ACOM, TU  
**To:** STATE FRANKFURT  
**Type:** TE  
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